

Tazewell Republican.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY AT
TAEZEWELL, VIRGINIA.

—BY—
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SUBSCRIPTIONS:
Republican, one year, in advance \$1.00

ADVERTISING RATES: furnished on application. Correspondence solicited.

The publisher of THE REPUBLICAN is not responsible for opinions expressed by correspondents.

The Republican is entered at the Postoffice at Tazewell, Virginia, as second-class matter.

All persons who take the paper from the postoffice or rural delivery boxes will be expected to pay for same. If you do not desire the paper you will kindly notify us, or tell the postmaster or rural carriers to send notice to discontinue.

TAEZEWELL REPUBLICAN.

THURSDAY, MAY 2, 1912.

ELECTIONS IN THE NINTH.

CHAPTER TWO.

In our issue of last week we gave notice that we would publish in this week's issue chapter two about "Elections in The Ninth." We now proceed to comply with that promise.

Last week chapter one was concluded with mention of fraudulent ballots that were used in Pulaski, Russell and Dickenson counties at the election of 1900. We declared that the ballots used in those counties "upon their face show they were intended to be used fraudulently," and that they were so used. Below we copy a part of the ballot used in Russell county.

From the Official Ballot for Russell County, Election Tuesday, November, 6, 1900

For President:
William McKinley, of Ohio.
For Vice-President:
Theodore Roosevelt, of New York.

Electors at Large
Warren S. Luty, of Rockingham.
George W. Butler, of Warwick.

For District Elector: First District S. B. Hardwick, of Westmoreland.

Second District, John J. Deyer, of Southampton.

Third District, Jonas Marcuse, of Richmond City.

Fourth District, R. Bolling Wilcox, of Prince George.

Fifth District, M. D. Martin, of Carroll.

Sixth District, Jacob S. Bear, of Roanoke county.

Seventh District, Samuel J. Hoffman, of Shenandoah.

Eighth District, M. K. Lowry, of Stafford.

Ninth District, D. F. Bailey, of Washington.

Tenth District, E. L. Mattice, of Rockbridge.

For Representative in the Fifty-Seventh Congress of the United States, From the Ninth Congressional District of Va., William F. Rhea, of Bristol.

For President:
William Jennings Bryan, of Nebraska.

For Vice-President:
Adlai E. Stevenson, of Illinois.

Electors at Large:
William Hodges Mann, of Nottoway, J. L. Jeffries, of Culpeper.

For District Electors: First District, T. J. Downing, of Lancaster.

For Second District, John Whitehead, of Norfolk City.

Third District, S. L. Kelly, of Richmond City.

Fourth District, Robert Turnbull, of Brunswick.

Fifth District, Eugene Withers, of Danville.

Sixth District, Graham Claytor, of Bedford.

Seventh District, R. S. Parks, of Page.

Eighth District, L. H. Machen, of Fairfax.

Ninth District, R. T. Irvine, of Wise.

Tenth District, Pembroke Pettit, of Fluvanna.

For Representative in the Fifty-Seventh Congress of the United States, From the Ninth Congressional District of Va., James A. Walker, of Wythe.

It will be seen from the above exhibits that the name of William F. Rhea was placed at the foot of the republican ticket and the name of James A. Walker was placed at the foot of the democratic ticket. That this was not done accidentally is proven by the fact that the name of William F. Rhea was placed at the bottom of the republican ticket on the official ballots in two other counties—Pulaski and Dickenson. General Walker's name was put at the foot of the Prohibition ticket on the Pulaski ballot, and his name was placed at the bottom of the democratic ticket in Dickenson. In that election all the ballots were marked by a democratic judge, as republican judges were never permitted to enter the booth with a voter. There was never anything done that was intentionally more crooked than the preparation and use of these ballots in Russell, Pulaski and Dickenson counties. The perfectly obvious intention was to fool the republicans and to fraudulently procure their votes for Rhea. For instance, down in Russell county, when an uneducated republican would enter the

booth with the democratic judge, whom he was forced to call to his assistance to mark his ballot, the judge would ask him who he wished to vote for. The republican would reply, "McKinley." Then the judge would say: "You want to vote the whole republican ticket?" The voter would reply, "yes." The judge would then say: "Here is the republican ticket with McKinley at its head; must I mark everything else off?" When the voter said "yes," the dishonest judge would mark off General Walker's name, shielding himself by the fact that, technically, Rhea's name constituted a part of the republican ticket.

A short time after the election in 1900 we met a distinguished democrat from Russell county, and he admitted the game had been worked that way there; and he tried to justify the crime by claiming that the judge had done what the voter told him to do.

That the same trick was played successfully in Pulaski county can be seen from reading the deposition of Colonel George W. Miles, printed in the second contested election case of Walker vs. Rhea. Colonel Miles was a pronounced democrat. On Thanksgiving day, 1900, he stated to the writer that the ballot used in Pulaski was a disgrace to his party, and had cost General Walker a number of votes.

The same trick was played in Dickenson county. This accounts for Rhea's boastful claim that he got more votes in the Ninth district than McKinley did.

There was but one fair and legal ballot printed and used in the Ninth district at the election of 1900. That ballot was the one prepared and used in Wythe county, the home of General Walker. Why do we say this? Because in every other county the instructions given by the Secretary of the Commonwealth for the preparation and printing of the ballots were disobeyed by the electoral boards. The following, dated October 18, 1900, was forwarded to the secretary of each electoral board in the district:

VIRGINIA, OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

Richmond, October 18, 1900.

To the Secretaries of Electoral Boards.
Sir:—In compliance with the fifth section of the amended act approved March 6, 1900, entitled "An act to amend and re-enact an act entitled 'An act to provide for a method of voting by ballot,'" I herewith transmit to you the names of the persons who have complied with the requirements of the act aforesaid and notified me of their intention to become candidates for Representative in the Fifty-seventh Congress of the United States, from the Ninth Congressional District of Virginia, at the election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1900.

WILLIAM F. RHEA,
JAMES A. WALKER.

The law requires that the ballot shall be a "white paper ticket," and your attention is especially called to that clause in the sixth section of the act above cited which reads as follows:

"These ballots shall contain the names of all candidates complying with the provisions as above required printed in black ink immediately below the office for which they have so announced their candidacy, and the names on said ballots shall be printed in the same order and each name in separate line, and the type used in printing said ballots shall be plain Roman type not smaller than type known as pica."

This letter and the accompanying list of candidates for President and Vice-President, with their electors, are printed in pica type.

Very Respectfully,
J. T. LAWLESS,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

It will be seen that the copy furnished by the Secretary of the Commonwealth to the electoral boards in the Ninth district had the names

William F. Rhea
James A. Walker

placed in consecutive order; and he sent with this a copy of the statute, directing that they be printed below the office for which their candidacy was announced, in the same order and each name in a separate line. These commands were violated by the electoral boards in every county in the district, except Wythe. This must have been done for a purpose—and that purpose was fraud. It must have been the result of a conspiracy entered into by Rhea's managers, the party organization and the electoral boards. This view is strengthened by the fact that a model of the "Scott county ballot" was sent by special messengers to every county in the district; and in some, we know, efforts were made to get the electoral boards to follow the model in the preparation of the ballots. How any newspaper, claiming to be honest and intelligent, can contend that the election of 1900 in the Ninth district was not stamped with the most disgraceful fraud passes understanding.

One democratic newspaper contends, however, that the seating of Rhea, though General Walker had died while the contest was pending, was a vindication of Rhea and disproved the charge that fraud abounded at the election in 1900. The committee that decided the second contested case of Walker vs. Rhea made a report which severely

criticized the Virginia election laws and election methods. They said:

"After a careful examination of the record your committee does not find such affirmative and positive evidence of fraud or mistakes on the part of the election officers as will overcome contestant's certified majority."

Then the committee made the following positive declarations, which were concurred in by the entire committee, save one partisan democrat.

"Having arrived at the conclusion that contestant should retain his seat in the Fifty-seventh Congress, the committee does not wish to conclude this report without expressing its disapproval of a law which makes cheating and corruption possible, even easy, and invites and facilitates fraud at the polls."

"A more thorough analysis of this law would disclose more clearly its many inequalities and its variety of opportunities for schemes and corrupt practices. If the intention of its framers were to invite fraud and conceal it, it is a successful accomplishment of that purpose. If the electoral board and election officers exercise as much partisanship and unfairness in its execution as did the general assembly in its enactment, the right of suffrage in Virginia can be but little more than an empty name. It matters not that the supreme court of that state have held it to be constitutional, it can not be otherwise than repugnant to all lovers of fair play and honest elections. On its present groundwork common fairness would suggest several important and necessary amendments. Not more than two members of the electoral boards should be of the same party, and the others should be appointed or elected on the recommendation of the opposing party's organization."

"Political boards which are required by law to represent opposing parties are too apt to be bipartisan only in theory where the same party organization controls all the appointments. There should be at least two registrars, one from each of the two largest political parties. One of the three judges of election and one of the clerks should be appointed on the recommendation of the opposing organization. Instead of maintaining the secrecy of the ballot with extreme and jealous care, opportunity should be given by way of sample ballots and otherwise whereby the voters may become thoroughly acquainted with it before entering the booth. That would be no violation of the secrecy of the ballot in the proper meaning of that word."

"In short, an election law should provide ways and means whereby each duly qualified elector may cast one vote, and only one, without difficulty or embarrassment. It should provide for an honest count and a correct return, to the end that the declared result may be accepted by all without question. Where, as under the present law, neither the contestant's certificate nor any other certificate from Virginia can be free from grave doubt and suspicion; this committee earnestly hopes that the constitutional convention and the general assembly of that old commonwealth, both of which are now in session, will adopt a constitution and an election code which will insure such a fair and free vote and such an open and honest count that in the future no man will presume to question the validity of the certificate."

This is the most terrific indictment of the election laws and democratic methods in Virginia that has ever been written or uttered. The Virginia constitutional convention, in session at the time this report was filed, failed and refused to adopt a single suggestion made by the elections committee. The convention so framed the suffrage and election laws as to win for them the distinction of being the most unfair and partisan laws ever written in a constitution or placed in a statute book. These laws invite fraud and furnish ample means to conceal it. They provide for a ballot that is intended to confuse the voter and to prevent him from casting his vote without "difficulty and embarrassment." Section 28 of the constitution prohibits the general assembly from providing ballots with "distinguishing mark or symbol" which would enable the ordinary voter to prepare his own ballot without the aid of an election officer. The ballots provided are long and complicated, and the law prohibits the use of official sample ballots to educate the voter so he can know what to do when he enters the booth. No one is allowed to see one of the official ballots until he is going into the booth to vote—that is, no republican is ever permitted to see it.

The circuit judges are permitted to name all of the three members of the electoral boards from one party—and these boards have been composed exclusively of democrats. There is but one registrar allowed, and he is nearly always the most partisan and pliant democrat that can be found at a precinct. The electoral boards are authorized to appoint all the officers of election, and this they almost entirely do without allowing the republicans to suggest their judges.

The framers of the constitution and the legislatures that have enacted existing election laws have shown such "partisanship and unfairness" in the making of these election laws that, it is not to be wondered at that the men they choose to execute them have reduced

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the right of suffrage in Virginia to "an empty name." They taint every "certificate from Virginia with grave doubt and suspicion."

We wonder if any democratic newspaper or any democrat in the Ninth district will again want to cite the seating of Rhea as a vindication of the Virginia election laws, and as proof that elections have been honest in the Ninth?

We have more to say on this subject and will publish next week chapter three.

A QUERY.

Editor C. V. News:—

Please give me the following information if you can, as I am writing a book, and I want all the prominent men to appear in it. I see the names of one Col. J. S. Browning, Col. W. G. O'Brien, Col. W. C. Pendleton, and recently heard of Col. J. A. Leslie. What I want to know is, how these colonels got their titles? I know they were not in the civil war or the Spanish-American war, for I went through it and did not see one of them. When I got out there was a negro who raised his hat and called me "colonel," and I threatened to kill him. He begged pardon and I let him go.

We cannot give the desired information. We shall, however, demand from Mr. Payne, on sight, an apology for putting us in the class he did.—Editor Clinch Valley News.

The editor of this paper can only answer as to his own title, which he got the same way Mr. Payne got the title of "honorable"—by aspiring to some high position which he never "got."

We are in this world to do our own share of its work and to contribute our life to the betterment of our fellows.

When in talking of business one man continually addresses the other man as "Brother," the other man will do well to look out for some unbrutal treatment.

Happiness usually manages to dodge the man whose chief aim is to attain it. Not that way can happiness be obtained, but by unselfish love and deeds for others.

Very many people suffer great anxiety and agony of mind from troubles that never happen. Their morbid imaginations and fear are the cause of so much needless worry.

Give Your Children Good Books to Read.

Believe me, you cannot leave your children a better heritage than a deep and abiding love of books and a taste for the best in literature. And you must begin when they are little. Read good books and poems to them and when they get old enough to read for themselves see what they are reading. Aside from the fact that what a child reads has a great effect on his character as an adult, there will come times in the lives of your children when a love and appreciation of good books will brighten hours of loneliness or enforced idleness that would otherwise be dark and gloomy indeed. To weep over the sorrows of little Nell or David Copperfield, or laugh at Mr. Micawber or Thrill at the exploits of Rob Roy or Ivanhoe or Marmon will prove a panacea or dullness, yes, and grief too, and leave one without any ruffled feelings such as intercourse with people sometimes gives.—Mrs. Lillian Brooks Gatlin, in The Progressive Farmer.

The Demons of the Swamp

are mosquitoes. As they sting they put deadly malaria germs in the blood. Then follow the icy chills and the fires of fever. The appetite flies and the strength fails; also malaria often paves the way for deadly typhoid. But Electric Bitters kill and cast out the malaria germs from the blood; give you a fine appetite and renew your strength. "After long suffering," wrote Wm. Fretwell, of Lucama, N. C., "three bottles drove all the malaria from my system, and I've had good health ever since." Best for all stomach, liver and kidney ills. 50 cents at all dealers.

Means a Vast Saving.

The purpose of the American Road Congress which will consolidate the annual convention of the American Association for Highway Improvements, the American Road Builders Association, the American Automobile Association, and the National Association of Road Material and Machinery Manufacturers, is to crystallize the movement for improved highways throughout the United States. The joint congress means the consolidation of the whole road movement, with all the factors, farmers, automobilists, engineers, manufacturers and public officials pulling together in the same direction. It means that there is to be a great single force behind the movement to bring the roads of the United States up to the maximum of efficiency.

Directors Page, of the United States Office of Public Roads, who is a member of the executive committee in charge of the arrangements for the joint congress, has prepared figures showing that the improvement of the main highways of the country, constituting about 20 per cent of all public roads, would result in an annual saving of at least \$250,000,000 in the cost of hauling alone. An additional saving would be effected by minimizing the wear and tear on horses, wagons, carriages, automobiles and other vehicles; in the expeditious transportation of crops and the elimination of waste in the shipment of truck farm products. It is estimated that the amount saved annually in the cost of hauling alone would be sufficient to improve 50,000 miles of road at an average cost of \$5,000 per mile. In five years, this would improve 250,000 miles of road, which would be sufficient to bring the total mileage of improved highway up to 20 per cent.

It will be shown to the country at the American Road Congress, which is to be held in the Fall—the place and exact time to be fixed later—that the figures showing the economic loss to the nation from bad roads are extremely conservative. A system of good roads would benefit the farmer first of all, but every consumer, every tax payer, and the government itself would be benefited inasmuch as improved highways would result in more even distribution of population, cheaper transportation of crops, which would lower the cost to the consumer and give the farmer quicker access to the city markets. The road movement is a fundamental reform and will come to a focus at the American Road Congress.

Escapes An Awful Fate.

A thousand tongues could not express the gratitude of Mrs. J. E. Cox, of Joliet, Ill., for her wonderful deliverance from an awful fate. "Typhoid pneumonia had left me with a dreadfully cough," she writes. "Sometimes I had such awful coughing spells I thought I would die. I could get no help from doctors' treatment or other medicines till I used Dr. King's New Discovery. But I owe my life to this wonderful remedy for I scarcely cough at all now." Quick and safe, it is the most reliable of all throat and lung medicines. Every bottle guaranteed. 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free at all dealers.

Believe Bryan Will Become a Candidate.

The visit of William Jennings Bryan to Washington last week and his conferences with the various party leaders there particularly in the Senate, was followed by widespread discussion of the possibility that the distinguished Nebraskan might again be the democratic candidate for President.

Mr. Bryan frankly stated to interviewers that he was not a candidate for the nomination in any sense of the word and that it was difficult for him to conceive of any circumstances under which he might be a candidate. He said there was plenty of other progressives in the party from whom a selection could be made.

Despite these public utterances, some democratic Senators in discussing their informal talks with Mr. Bryan, were inclined to believe that under certain conditions Mr. Bryan would not decline the nomination.

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P. M.	A. M.		Leave	Dante,	Va.	Arrive	P. M.	P. M.			
1:10	8:00		"	St. Paul,	"	"	12:45	10:00			
1:35	8:25		"	Dungannon,	"	"	12:17	9:31			
2:21	8:56		"	Ft. Blackmore,	"	"	11:40	8:56			
2:45	9:13		"	Speer's Ferry,	"	"	11:20	8:38			
3:27	9:42		"	Cameron, Va.-Tenn.	"	"	10:42	8:00			
3:44	9:56		"	Kingsport, Tenn.	"	"	10:24	7:57			
3:59	9:44		"	Factious,	"	"	10:09	7:22			
4:18	10:20		"	Fordtown,	"	"	9:55	7:11			
4:40	10:32		"	Gray,	"	"	9:42	6:58			
4:56	10:43		"	Johnson City	"	"	9:30	6:47			
5:34	11:15		Arrive	Erwin,	"	Leave	9:01	6:14			
6:47	11:55		Leave	Erwin,	"	Arrive	8:17	5:36			
6:54	12:02		"	Unaka Springs	N. C.	"	8:10	5:31			
7:08	12:15		"	Huntsdale,	"	"	7:58	5:20			
7:59	12:44		"	Green Mt'n	"	"	7:28	4:49			
8:24	1:01		"	Toecane	"	"	7:12	4:33			
8:46	1:17		"	Boonford	"	"	6:57	4:18			
9:07	1:44		"	Sprucepine	"	"	6:35	3:54			
9:22	2:04		Arrive	Altapass	"	Leave	6:14	3:34			
9:50	2:14						6:05	3:24			
10:05											
1 MIXED DAILY									6 PASS. DAILY		
A. M.	P. M.		Leave	Altapass	"	Arrive	P. M.	P. M.			
6:15	2:14		"	Marion	"	"	8:05	3:24			
7:49	3:21		"	Bostic Yard	"	"	6:45	2:03			
9:07	4:11		"	Forest City	"	"	5:43	1:08			
9:17	4:19		"	Chesnoe	S. C.	"	5:34	12:58			
9:55	4:47		Arrive	Spartanburg	"	Leave	5:07	12:28			
10:45	5:25						4:30	11:55			

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